

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

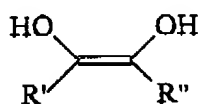
1. (Currently amended) A composition, comprising:

an oxidizable compound having a first stability towards an oxidation, the oxidizable compound further having an electron donating group, and wherein the oxidizable compound comprises at least one of a vicinal diol and a hydroxy in vicinal position to a keto or O<sup>-</sup> group;

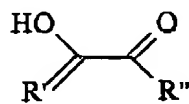
an electrophilic compound that comprises a group thirteen or group fourteen metal and accepts electrons from the electron donating group, thereby forming a complex between the oxidizable compound and the electrophilic compound, wherein the oxidizable compound in the complex has a second stability towards the oxidation; and

wherein the second stability is greater than the first stability.

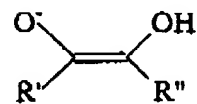
2. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the oxidizable compound includes a structure according to structures 1-3



(1)



(2)



(3)

wherein R' and R'' are independently selected from a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, alkaryl;

wherein the substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, alkaryl ~~in R' and R''~~ optionally include ~~comprise~~ a heteroatom selected from the group consisting of O, S, N, Se, and P; and

wherein the substituted or unsubstituted alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, alkaryl in R' and R" optionally together form a substituted or unsubstituted ring.

- 3 (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 3 wherein the hydroxy groups in the vicinal diol ~~electron donating group~~ in the oxidizable compound are is in conjugation with at least one double bond in the oxidizable compound.
6. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 3 wherein the oxidizable compound is selected from the group consisting of an ascorbic acid, a salicylic acid, and a catechin.
7. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 wherein the electron-donating group is ~~selected from the group consisting of a hydroxyl group, a sulfhydryl group, a selenyl group, and an amino group.~~
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
- 10 (Currently amended) The composition of claim 1 8 wherein the electrophilic compound is a borate or a silicate.
11. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the second stability is at least five times greater than the first stability.
12. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the second stability is at least fifty times greater than the first stability.
13. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the second stability is at least five hundred times greater than the first stability.
14. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 1 wherein the oxidation is a reaction of an alcohol group in the oxidizable compound into a keto group in an aqueous system.

- 15 (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the complex is an anionic complex.
16. (Original) The composition of claim 15 further comprising a counter ion selected from the group consisting of a potassium cation, a sodium cation, an ammonium cation, a calcium cation, and a trimethyl-methyl-ammonium cation.
17. (Currently amended) A method of increasing chemical stability of a compound, comprising:
- providing an oxidizable compound having a first stability towards an oxidation, the oxidizable compound further having an electron donating group, and wherein the oxidizable compound comprises at least one of a vicinal diol and a hydroxy in vicinal position to a keto or O<sup>-</sup> group;
- providing an electrophilic compound that comprises a group thirteen or group fourteen metal and accepts an electron from the electron donating group;
- forming a complex between the oxidizable compound and the electrophilic compound, wherein the oxidizable compound in the complex has a second stability towards the oxidation, and wherein the second stability is greater than the first stability.
18. (Canceled)
19. (Canceled)
20. (Original) The method of claim 17 wherein the oxidizable compound is selected from the group consisting of an ascorbic acid, a salicylic acid, and a catechin, and wherein the electrophilic compound comprises a borate, and wherein the second stability is five hundred times greater than the first stability.